

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4519

AN ACT

To authorize the President to consent to third party transfer of the ex-USS Bowman County to the USS LST Ship Memorial, Inc.

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To authorize the President to consent to third party transfer
of the ex-USS Bowman County to the USS LST Ship
Memorial, Inc.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. AUTHORITY TO CONSENT TO THIRD PARTY**
2 **TRANSFER OF EX-USS BOWMAN COUNTY TO**
3 **USS LST SHIP MEMORIAL, INC.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
5 ings:

6 (1) It is the long-standing policy of the United
7 States Government to deny requests for the retrans-
8 fer of significant military equipment that originated
9 in the United States to private entities.

10 (2) In very exceptional circumstances, when the
11 United States public interest would be served by the
12 proposed retransfer and end-use, such requests may
13 be favorably considered.

14 (3) Such retransfers to private entities have
15 been authorized in very exceptional circumstances
16 following appropriate demilitarization and receipt of
17 assurances from the private entity that the item to
18 be transferred would be used solely in furtherance of
19 Federal Government contracts or for static museum
20 display.

21 (4) Nothing in this section should be construed
22 as a revision of long-standing policy referred to in
23 paragraph (1).

24 (5) The Government of Greece has requested
25 the consent of the United States Government to the

1 retransfer of HS Rodos (ex-USS Bowman County
2 (LST 391)) to the USS LST Ship Memorial, Inc.

3 (b) AUTHORITY TO CONSENT TO RETRANSFER.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
5 the President may consent to the retransfer by the
6 Government of Greece of HS Rodos (ex-USS Bow-
7 man County (LST 391)) to the USS LST Ship Me-
8 morial, Inc.

9 (2) CONDITIONS FOR CONSENT.—The President
10 should not exercise the authority under paragraph
11 (1) unless the USS LST Memorial, Inc.—

12 (A) utilizes the vessel for public, nonprofit,
13 museum-related purposes; and

14 (B) complies with applicable law with re-
15 spect to the vessel, including those requirements
16 related to facilitating monitoring by the Federal
17 Government of, and mitigating potential envi-
18 ronmental hazards associated with, aging ves-
19 sels, and has a demonstrated financial capabil-
20 ity to so comply.

Passed the House of Representatives October 14,
1998.

Attest:

Clerk.